

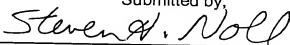
## REMARKS

In the Office Action dated June 2, 2003, claims 1-7, 9-11, 14-16 and 19-23 were rejected based on the Graettinger reference, and claims 8, 12, 13, 17 and 18 were stated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By the present Amendment, the subject matter of claim 18 has been incorporated in original independent claim 1. New independent claim 24 has been submitted, which is a combination of original claims 1, 7 and 8. New independent claim 25 has been submitted which is a combination of original claims 1 and 12, and the dependency of claim 13 has been changed to depend from new claim 25. New independent claim 26 has been submitted, which is a combination of original claims 1, 16 and 17. The original dependent claims that are now the subject matter of the respective independent claims have been cancelled. Editorial changes have been made in certain of the other dependent claims, either for the purpose of using consistent terminology throughout the claims, or to include changes which have been necessitated by the amendment to original claim 1.

In view of the indicated allowability of the subject matter of claims 8, 12, 17 and 18, all claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



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